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April 19, 1999

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APR 1 9 1999

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas

Secretary

Federal Communications Commission of the Secretary

Portals II Building

445 Twelfth Street, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Applications for Transfer of Control to SBC Communications Inc. of Licenses and Authorizations Held by Ameritech Corporation, CC Docket No. 98-141

Dear Ms. Salas:

Please be advised that the attached news release was sent by facsimile on Friday, April 16, 1999, to the Chairman and Commissioners and the following individuals: Tom Power, Kevin Martin, Kyle Dixon, Rick Chessen, Linda Kinney, Tom Krattenmaker, Bob Atkinson, Michelle Carey and Bill Dever. The news release announces that SBC National, Inc., a subsidiary of SBC Communications Inc., has filed for certification as an alternative local exchange provider in Florida, Massachusetts and Washington State. In its applications, SBC states that it intends to be a facilities-based telecommunications provider in each market that it will serve.

In accordance with the Commission's rules governing <u>ex parte</u> presentations, two copies of this notification are provided herewith. Please call me directly should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Told J. & Kul

No. of Copies rec'd Of Z List A B C D E

Attachment

cc: Recipients Indicated Above

News Release



For more information, contact:

Ed Presberg 314-982-8688

SBC Files to Provide Local Exchange Service in Florida, Massachusetts and Washington

Facilities-Based Networks Planned for Residential, Business Customers

San Antonio (April 16, 1999) — SBC National, Inc., a subsidiary of SBC Communications Inc. filed applications today with the utility commissions of Florida, Massachusetts and Washington to provide alternative local exchange service within those states.

"We are looking forward to the opportunity of providing a new choice for business and residential consumers," said David R. Lopez, vice president, National-Local Regulatory. "This is a significant step forward in our National-Local strategy and we are pleased to begin in these three states."

National-Local is SBC's strategy to provide local service in markets across the country once its merger with Ameritech Corporation is completed. Under this plan, the combined company will enter 30 of the nation's top markets outside of its home territories. In February, SBC announced Boston, Miami, and Seattle will be the first National-Local markets.

In its applications, SBC said it intends to be a facilities-based telecommunications provider in each market. The application also says the company plans an initial network strategy that combines its own network infrastructure, leased capacity from other network providers, partnerships with other providers, combined use of unbundled network elements and resale.

MORE

SBC FILES APPLICATIONS 2-2-2

It is essential that the company maintain as much control as possible of all network elements "to ensure the high level of service quality, technical excellence, performance guarantees and overall customer satisfaction for which SBC is recognized in the worldwide markets it currently serves," according to the applications.

SBC intends to first provide local and data services to large business customers, Lopez said. The company will then use the infrastructure it has deployed to expand service to small business and residential consumers as rapidly as possible. SBC intends to begin to offer service in each of the markets within 12 months after it concludes its merger with Ameritech.

Each of the markets has strategic advantages for SBC. "Boston is a high tech hub with significant data traffic, and it's an entry point to markets in eastern Canada and Europe," Lopez said. "Miami's position as a gateway to Latin America is an important factor, given SBC's strong presence in California and Texas. Seattle is a booming telecommunications market, and it's close to a major landing point for the China-U.S. Submarine Cable, which we are a partner in building."

Implementation of the National-Local strategy is contingent upon the completion of the SBC-Ameritech merger, which provides both companies the scale, scope, customer base and employee talent pool needed to expand successfully and efficiently into 30 new, major markets.

The two companies announced plans to merge in May of 1998 and expect to complete the transaction by mid-1999. The merger has been cleared by the U.S. Justice Department and approved by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). It is being reviewed now by the Federal Communications Commission and the Illinois Commerce Commission.

SBC Communications Inc. (www.sbc.com) is a global leader in the telecommunications industry, with more than 37 million access lines and 6.9 million wireless customers across the United States, as well as investments in telecommunications businesses in 11 countries. Under the Southwestern Bell, Pacific Bell, SNET, Nevada Bell and Cellular One brands, SBC, through its subsidiaries, offers a wide range of innovative services. SBC offers local and long-distance telephone service, wireless communications, data communications, paging, Internet access, and messaging, as well as telecommunications equipment, and directory advertising and publishing. SBC has more than 129,000 employees and its annual revenues rank it in the top 50 among Fortune 500 companies.